

## APPENDIX C

### D'ORSAY'S PORTRAIT OF LYNDHURST

The portrait of Lyndhurst by D'Orsay, which is reproduced in this volume, has an interesting history. It somehow came into the possession of Mr. Gladstone, and was by him despatched to Christie's with other pictures and his collection of china when he left Carlton House Terrace in 1875. Disraeli, hearing that the picture was to be sold, sent Mr. Montagu Corry, his private secretary, to buy it; but in the meantime it had occurred to Mr. Cecil Raikes to invite a number of Conservative members of Parliament to join him in securing it with a view to a presentation. The rival bidders reached the auction room about the same time, but only to find that the picture had been already sold at an extremely low price. By the offer of a very handsome profit, Mr. Corry tried to obtain it, but his offer was rejected ; and eventually, after some amusing manoeuvres by the purchaser, which are related in the *Life of Raikes?* it was secured by Mr. Raikes for a sum nearly ten times as great as the original auction price. The picture was sent to the Prime Minister accompanied by the following letter : —

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY,  
*July 2, 1875.*

DEAR MR. DISRAELI,

Knowing the friendship that united you both to the late Lord Lyndhurst and to Count D'Orsay, we beg to express the

<sup>1</sup> Pages 100-102. The story as given there differs in some small particulars from the version here adopted, this latter being based on a contemporary memorandum written by Lord Barrington.